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Glen Eden Town Hall costs to be investigated

Mill stone or amenity?

GLEN EDEN BOROUGH COUNCIL may pull down or sell its town hall if estimated costs of maintenance for a ten year period indicate that it is too heavy a liability.

Despite this possibility the council authorised repairs for the hall costing $1,400 and the engineer to bring down a full report on future maintenance costs.

The hall, valued at $20,000, cost £4,300 25 years ago, but the mayor, Dr Moody, said that no one would buy it at the valuation price.

The matter was raised by Mr B.K. Berg. He wanted to know whether it would be cheaper to pull the building down rather than be faced with a heavy maintenance bill every year.

"I do not feel like putting ratepayers to the expense of maintaining a building which could be a liability," he said.

He then proposed an investigation into hall maintenance costs likely to be incurred in the next ten years.

Mrs L. Roick said the building was generally in good condition and it would be a sound business proposition to do it up.

"What happens if our income from this building is cut - we will then be left with a valuable but unsuitable building for general use. At the moment it can only be used for stage and film shows, said Mr Berg.

He added that the hall's present use was a restricted amenity in terms of cultural activities.

"Turn it into a ten pin bowling alley and we will make a fortune," said Mrs Roick.

Mr B. Black said that as a community centre the hall was outdated.

"It could be made into one and it is a fact we will not pull it down this year," said the mayor before council members approved this year's maintenance bill.

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